

IOWA'S PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES – IMPACTING CASS COUNTY

Iowa's public universities serve approximately 75,000 students. These include:

- 163 students from Cass County.

Iowa's public universities serve all Iowans in many ways every day.

- Providing health care to 138 Cass County residents per year with those patients making 752 visits to clinics per year.
- Providing technical assistance, business expertise and entrepreneur support to companies in every county in Iowa, serving businesses throughout Cass County and the entire state every year
- Assisting 6,500 Cass County agricultural operations, youths and families through ISU Extension

Iowa's public universities are the largest providers of highly skilled professionals including:

- 50 percent of all doctors in Iowa were trained at an Iowa public university, including 6 doctors in Cass County.
- 7 Cass County veterinarians were trained at an Iowa public university.
- Dozens of Cass County business owners hold degrees from an Iowa public university.
- About 6 of every 10 teachers in Iowa were trained at Iowa's public universities, including 163 teachers in Cass County.
- 3 dentists and 4 pharmacists practicing in Cass County were trained at an Iowa public university.

Iowa's public universities generate \$8 BILLION to \$9 BILLION of economic activity annually, supporting businesses and jobs throughout the state.

The operating budgets for Iowa's public universities for Fiscal 2012 total \$1.255 BILLION. \$448 million is the total of the Regent higher education (general university) appropriations. Budgeted tuition revenue totals \$731.9 million.

During the past three years, state appropriations to the universities have been reduced by 25 percent even though enrollment has increased by nearly 4,000 students.

In Fiscal Year 2000, state appropriations provided 64 percent of the revenues for Iowa's public universities and tuition provided 30 percent. Today state appropriations provide only 36 percent of revenue while tuition revenues make up 58 percent.

In 1990, an Iowan could work five weeks at the average weekly wage to cover the cost of a semester's tuition at an Iowa public university. Today, it would take more than eight weeks of work to cover the cost of a semester's tuition.

Students are bearing the burden of the shift in funding by taking on debt. Students graduating from Iowa's public universities are averaging nearly \$30,000 of debt at graduation.

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UNIVERSITIES FOR A BETTER IOWA